

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: A. LOSHAKOVE, et al.
Serial Number: Not yet assigned
Filed: 20 March 2000 as PCT/IB00/00310 and Herewith as US National Stage
For: Low Profile Anastomosis Connector
Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Further to the concurrent filing of a U.S. national stage application of PCT Application No. PCT/IB00/00310, kindly amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Kindly replace the "RELATED APPLICATIONS" section with the following paragraph in clean form:

-RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a U.S. national filing of PCT Application No. PCT/IB00/00310, filed March 20, 2000. This application is also a continuation in part of PCT applications PCT/IL99/00284, now U.S. application No. 09/701,531, PCT/IL99/00285, now U.S. application No. 09/701,523, PCT/IL99/00670 and PCT/IL99/00674, the disclosures of which are incorporated herein by reference. This application is also related to a PCT application PCT/IB00/00302, filed March 20, 2000, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.--

REMARKS

The present application is a U.S. national application of PCT Application No. PCT/IB00/00310 filed March 20, 2000.

Applicants wish to bring to the attention of the Examiner that claims 1-58 and 63-72 of the present application are the same claims as indicated in an International Preliminary Examination Report, issued by the USPTO, as meeting novelty and inventive step criteria of articles 33(2)-33(4) of the PCT.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the arguments advanced in the response to the Written Opinion of February 22, 2001. Applicants point out that the figures filed in that response were not attached or referred to in the IPER. A copy of the response including the amended figures is attached herewith.